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Letter dated 4 March 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as the representative of the current Chairman of the African Union, I wish to transmit herewith the communiqué on the situation in Chad adopted by the African Union Peace and Security Council at its 110th meeting, held on 18 February 2008 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and the communiqué on the situation in Chad could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Augustine P. **Mahiga**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the United Republic
of Tanzania to the United Nations
Representative of the current Chairman of the African Union

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Annex to the letter dated 4 March 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

Communiqué of the 110th meeting of the Peace and Security Council

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 110th meeting held on 18 February 2008, adopted the following decision on the situation in Chad:

Council:

1. **Takes note** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Chad [PSC/PR/2(CX)], the statements by the representatives of Chad and the United Nations, as well as the statements made by the representatives of Libya and the Republic of Congo in their capacity as the countries mandated by the 10th ordinary session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Addis Ababa, from 31 January to 2 February 2008, to assist in finding a lasting solution to the crisis in Chad;

2. **Recalls** decision **Assembly/AU/Dec.188 (X)** on the situation in Chad adopted by the 10th ordinary session of the Assembly of the Union;

3. **Reiterates** the condemnation by the AU of the attacks perpetrated by armed groups against the Chadian Government and its rejection of any unconstitutional change of Government, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the Algiers' Decision, the Lomé Declaration on Unconstitutional Changes of Government and the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance adopted in January 2007;

4. **Calls on** all the Chadian parties to unconditionally renounce the use of force and engage in constructive dialogue aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the problems facing their country. In this regard, Council **urges** the Chadian Government, the democratic opposition and the politico-military opposition to implement in good faith the different agreements that they signed, including the agreement of 13 August 2007, signed in N'djamena between the parties of the presidential majority and the democratic opposition, and that of 25 October 2007, signed in Syrte, Libya, between the Government and armed movements;

5. **Encourages** the Chadian Government to create conducive conditions for the pursuit and deepening of the dialogue already initiated, including ensuring the security, safety and liberty of all political stakeholders, as well as ensuring that all the political leaders who have disappeared are found in earnest and made free;

6. **Expresses appreciation** for the initiatives taken by the Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi and President Denis Sassou-Nguesso of the Republic of the Congo, in conformity with the mandate given to them by the Assembly of the Union in its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.188 (X), **encourages** them to establish contact with all the Chadian parties and to review the current situation in all its aspects, in order to find a lasting solution to the problems facing Chad and contribute to the promotion of regional stability

and the principles of good neighbourness, and **calls on** all the Chadian parties to give them full and unreserved cooperation;

7. **Reiterates** its commitment to the principles of good neighbourliness and **calls on** all the countries of the region to comply with the principles of the African Union on respect for the unity and territorial integrity of Member States and to scrupulously respect the commitments that they made within the framework of the different agreements that they signed with a view to improving their bilateral relations;

8. **Underscores,** once again, the importance of a coherent and integrated regional approach identifying and addressing the root causes of the crisis in order to promote durable peace and stability in the region, as called for in communiqué PSC/PR/Comm(LXX) adopted by the 70th meeting of the PSC held on 12 February 2007;

9. **Expresses** its concern at the deterioration of the humanitarian situation and **calls on** all the parties to facilitate the work of the humanitarian organizations and access to the needy population in this respect, Council **stresses** the need for the urgent deployment of MINURCAT and EUFOR in order to facilitate the humanitarian efforts;

10. **Requests** the Chairperson of the Commission to continue to follow closely the evolution of the situation in Chad and in the region. In this regard, Council **further requests** the Chairperson to maintain and strengthen the Liaison Office of the African Union in N'djamena;

11. **Agrees** to meet in due course to review the situation, including the relations between Chad and Sudan, based on the outcome of the mediation conducted by the leaders mandated by the Assembly and any other relevant information;

12. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.